

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

2 INTRODUCED BY D. BROWN, ANDERSEN, BALLANTYNE, BARRETT, BECKER, BERGREN, BIXBY,  
3 BOOKOUT-REINICKE, BRANAE, BRUEGGEMAN, CALLAHAN, E. CLARK, P. CLARK, COHENOUR, CYR,  
4 DEVLIN, DICKENSON, DOWELL, ERICKSON, FACEY, FISHER, FORRESTER, FRANKLIN, FRITZ,  
5 GALLIK, GALLUS, GALVIN-HALCRO, GIBSON, GILLAN, GOLIE, GUTSCHE, HAINES, HARRIS, HAWK,  
6 HEDGES, HURWITZ, JACKSON, JACOBSON, JAYNE, JENT, JUNEAU, KAUFMANN, KEANE, LAKE,  
7 LAMBERT, LANGE, LASLOVICH, LASZLOFFY, LAWSON, LEHMAN, LENHART, LEWIS, LINDEEN,  
8 MAEDJE, MALCOLM, MATTHEWS, MCKENNEY, MENDENHALL, MOOD, MORGAN, MUSGROVE,  
9 NEWMAN, NOENNIG, A. OLSON, B. OLSON, PARKER, PATTISON, RASER, RICE, RIPLEY, ROBERTS,  
10 ROME, ROSS, B. RYAN, SALES, SCHRUMPF, SHOCKLEY, SINRUD, SMALL-EASTMAN, SMITH,  
11 STEINBEISSER, STOKER, B. THOMAS, WAGMAN, WAITSCHIES, WANZENRIED, WEISS, WILSON,  
12 WINDY BOY, WITT, YOUNKIN

13  
14 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
15 MONTANA URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH TO  
16 INCREASE FUNDING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TO MEET THE FEDERAL COMMITMENT UNDER THE  
17 INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

18  
19 WHEREAS, special education programs serving students with disabilities provide essential services to  
20 children and their families; and

21 WHEREAS, state and local educational agencies are mandated by federal law to provide a free  
22 appropriate public education for children with disabilities; and

23 WHEREAS, costs associated with serving children with disabilities continue to rise, and meeting those  
24 substantial costs requires a strong partnership between local, state, and federal governments; and

25 WHEREAS, underfunding of special education programs affects the quality of services provided to  
26 children with disabilities and results in local school districts redirecting resources that could otherwise be used  
27 for all children; and

28 WHEREAS, the federal commitment to states and localities under the federal Individuals With  
29 Disabilities Education Act to contribute 40% of the excess costs of providing a free appropriate public education  
30 has never been fulfilled; and

